

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method for preventing access to a shared peripheral device by a processor-based node in a multinode system, comprising:
 - (1) determining a first list of nodes in the multinode system, including the processor-based node, that have access to the shared peripheral device;
 - (2) generating a first value reflecting the first list of nodes;
 - (3) storing at the shared peripheral device the first value;
 - (4) sending an access request from the processor-based node to the shared peripheral device, the request including a second value representing a second list of nodes in the multinode system;
 - (5) determining whether the first and second values are identical;
 - (6) if the first and second values are identical, then executing the access request to the shared peripheral device, else denying the access request; and
 - (7) repeating steps 5 and 6 each time an access request is sent from the processor-based node to the device.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein:
the first value is generated utilizing at least in part information relating to a first time corresponding to the first list of nodes; and
the second value is generated utilizing at least in part information relating to a second time corresponding to the second list of nodes.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein:
step 5 includes the step of determining whether the first and second times are identical.

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first and second values are generated based at least in part on epoch numbers generated by a membership protocol executing on said multinode system.

5-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously presented) A computer usable medium having computer readable code embodied therein for preventing access to a shared peripheral device by a processor-based node in a multinode system, the computer readable code comprising:

a determination module configured to determine a first list of nodes in the multinode system, including the processor-based node, that have access to the shared peripheral device;

a generation module configured to generate a first value corresponding to the first list of nodes;

a storage module configured to store the first value at the shared peripheral device;

a reception module configured to receive access requests from a node to the shared peripheral device, each access request including a second value representing a second list of nodes in the multinode system;

a comparator module configured to determine, for each access request received, whether ~~said~~ the first value and the second value are identical; and

an execution module for executing each access request at the peripheral device, if the first value and the second value are identical.

15. (Previously presented) The computer usable medium of claim 14, wherein said computer readable code includes a submodule configured to generate the first value using information relating to a first time corresponding to the first list of nodes, and further comprising a module configured to generate the second value using information relating to a second time corresponding to the second list of nodes.

16. (Previously presented) The computer usable medium of claim 15, wherein the comparator module includes a submodule configured to determine whether the first value and the second value are identical.

17. (Previously presented) A computer usable medium having computer readable code embodied therein for preventing access to a shared peripheral device by a processor-based node in a multinode system having a plurality of nodes, the shared peripheral device being coupled to the multinode system by a resource controller, the computer readable code comprising:

a membership monitor module configured to determine a membership list of the plurality of nodes, including the shared peripheral device, on the multinode system at predetermined times, including at least at a time when membership of the multinode system changes;

a resource manager module configured to determine when the shared peripheral device is in a failed state and to communicate the failure of the shared peripheral device to the membership monitor to indicate to the membership monitor to generate a new membership list;

a configuration value module configured to generate a unique value including the new membership list and to store the unique value locally at each of the plurality of nodes on the system; and

an access control module configured to block access requests by a requesting node to the shared peripheral device when the unique value stored locally at the requesting node does not equal a value stored at the resource controller.

18. (Previously presented) The computer usable medium of claim 17, wherein the configuration value module is configured to execute independently of any action by the shared peripheral device when the shared peripheral device is in a failed state.

19. (Previously presented) The computer usable medium of claim 17, wherein the membership monitor module is configured to execute independently of any action by the shared peripheral device when the shared peripheral device is in a failed state.

20. (Previously presented) The computer usable medium of claim 17, wherein the resource manager module is configured to execute independently of any action by the shared peripheral device when the shared peripheral device is in a failed state.

21. (Previously presented) The computer usable medium of claim 17, wherein the configuration value module is configured to execute independently of any action by the shared peripheral device when the shared peripheral device is in a failed state.

22. (Previously presented) The computer usable medium of claim 17, wherein the access control module is configured to execute independently of any action by the shared peripheral device when the shared peripheral device is in a failed state.

23. (Previously presented) The computer usable medium of claim 17, wherein the configuration value module includes a submodule configured to generate the unique value based at least in part upon a time stamp indicating the time at which the corresponding membership list was generated.

24-26. (Cancelled)